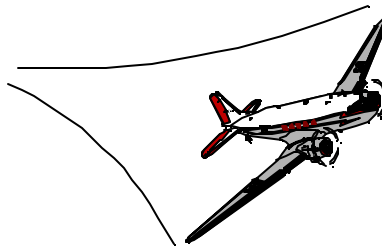


# **SPECIAL AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION BULLETIN**

REGULATORY SUPPORT DIVISION  
P.O. BOX 26460  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73125-0460



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

No. CE-00-28  
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*SAIB's are posted on the internet at <http://av-info.faa.gov>*

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This is issued for informational purposes only and any recommendation for corrective action is not mandatory.

## **Introduction:**

The purpose of this Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin (SAIB) is to provide safety information to Schempp-Hirth Nimbus-4DM sailplane owners on the following:

- Powerplant Safety Related Items (if equipped with SOLO engine type 2625-02 engine installed per Technical Note 868-9.)

## **Background:**

This service information is applicable to Schempp-Hirth Sailplane Model Nimbus-4DM applicable to the following serial numbers: 30 through 37. The FAA received these safety related information from the German Luftfahrt-Bundesamt (LBA) as Mandatory Continuing Airworthiness Information.

## **Safety Issue:**

The LBA has informed the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) that failure of the engine may occur due to high belt tension of the engine-propeller drive system. The manufacturer has developed Technical Note Number 868-3 addressing the following items:

1. Toothed belt tension and crankshaft bearing
2. Spindle-to-pylon attachment strut
3. Mechanical spindle overload safety device
4. Limit switch "pylon retracted"
5. Propeller brake system
6. Fuel reserve quantity
7. Revised pages for the Flight Manual
8. Revised pages for the Maintenance Manual
9. Revised pages for the Engine Manual

The FAA highly recommends that these safety related items are complied with in the suggested compliance time. Contact the FAA at address below for copies of Technical Note 868-3 and LBA Airworthiness Directive 1999 (not mandatory in the U.S.).

## **General Information:**

The FAA provides this information as a courtesy to operators of the Schempp-Hirth Model Nimbus-4DM because this is a known safety issue. The FAA does not issue Airworthiness Directives for sailplanes that do not have a U.S. type certificate. This safety issue will not be tracked or enforced by the FAA. Furthermore, the FAA will not use an SAIB to track all safety related items for non-type certificated products.

## **For Technical Information Concerning These Safety Issues Contact:**

Schempp-Hirth Flugzeugbau GmbH, Postfach 14 43, D-73222 Kirchheim/Tech, Federal Republic of Germany;  
Telephone 49.7021.7298-0; Facsimile 49.7021.7298-199.

## **Further Information Contact:**

- Tom Knauff, United States Schempp-Hirth Dealer, 3523 South Eagle Valley Road, Jullian, PA 16844;  
Telephone (814) 355-2483; Facsimile (814) 355-2633; or

- Mike Kiesov, Aerospace Engineer/Pilot, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri, 64106; telephone (816) 329-4144; Facsimile (816) 329-4090.